Tvvo notorious Murders. One committed by a Tanner on his wiues ſonne, nere Hornechurch in Eſſex.

The other on a Graſier nere Ailsburie in Buckinghamſhire. With theſe is intermixt another murdrous intending fellonie at Riſlip in Middleſex. All done this laſt month.

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BRITISH

Three cruell felonies and two hated murders performed this laſt moneth by the father and brother in law againſt the Sun and brother, the neighbour againſt the neighbours child, the falſe familiar againſt his vnmiſdeeming freend.

BIrdes obſerue ſeaſons, Beaſt knowe the courſe of tymes, eyther to their owne kind are kind: but men neither regard time, nor make vſe of example but with a headlong fury follow their owne appetite. Experience in all ages hath approued that Sin hath not been in the higheſt Eſtate vnpuniſhed eſpecially that ſinne, that is to nature abhorring, before good men moſt deteſtable, of God from the beginning deteſted. Murder, I meane, that crying ſinne, that ſinne which gaue the firſt murderer horror of heart, and preſents all his ſucceſſors, with hell of conſcience. Of ſo many thouſand bloodthirſtie tirants, cloſe plotting poyſoners, felonious waiting murderes, let any man tel me, which went vnto his graue in peace: the ſcripture, prophane Stories, the records and cronicles of all nations, remember not one, but all point out a miſerable, ſudden and certaine ruine to him that lay in wait for blod. The wiſedome of our fathers in elder ages, the policie of maiſtrates in theſe times, wherein iniquitie rageth, by puniſhmēt haue ſought to warne the liuing vntoucht to remember the guilty put to death, that they may feare to fall into ſuch miſfortune. To this they thought good to adde, ỳ publiſhing of their deteſted crimes, that thoſe whoſe eyes could not behold their deſerued endes, might yet by hearing be warned. The imitation whereof wee follow, and in as few wordes as the matter will giue leaue deſcribe three ſorrowful accidents, gathered from the confeſſion of the maleſactors.

Jon wright husband of Chambers
Chambers the sonne in law
Thon Gray sonne brother in law

4.

The murder of Thomas Chambers.

In Eſſex not farre from London in the parish of bymaſter, at a place called Cobetts Tie, dwelt on John Wright, who had married the widdow of one Chambers a Manner: whoſe Sonne Thomas Chambers being a yong man of great towardnes, of condition gentle, of body well proportioned, was bereft of life euen when he began to liue, by the conſpiracie of his vnkinde brother in law John Graygoſe of Epping husbandman, that had maried Chambers ſiſter, & John Wrights crueltie the vnnaturall husband of his mother. The cauſe that moued theſe two this ſinne to attempt, aroſe from hence Thomas Chambers being by his father left heire to 30.l.a yeare, and a portion of 200.l and vpwards in money, which money and land at chriſtmas next was to come to his hande, or if he died vnder age, a great part of it, then to fall vnto the wife of the aboue named Graygoſe: Graygoſe (as at his death Wright protested) about Cãdlemas laſt came vnto him and plotted murder, promiſing the benefit that by Chambers death to either of them might ariſe. O falſe temptation of deceiuing gaine: how blind are men to be ſo abuſed? how fond to fall ſo fondly? to beléeue the deuill ſo quickly? when they can no ſooner haue perfected ſo odious an ill, but vengeance like a thæfe in the night ſeazeth on them: nay like a violent tempeſt beates downe their violence. But to our matter. Graygoſe was the wicked tempter, Wright as willingly tempted, the one conceiues the miſchæfe, the other conſentes: many times they meeteplott, conſpire, & in the end conclude, that about Epping or Weeldſide in Eſſex, in one of the Whitſon holidaies he ſhould be ſlaine: which of the could firſt meete him promiſed to be the murderer. So part theſe vile conſpirators, eyther attending the diſmall time of Chambers deſtruction. Wright being alwaies in the house, had fitter opportunity than his confederate, and on the firſt of June before the appointed time, knowing Thomas Chambers to be forth

betweene the howers of ten and twelue awaited at a place called Rushy greene nere Barrow hill, in the parish of Homechurch, and with a stake taken out of a style he there assaulted the vnmistrusting yong man, & at one blow gaue on the right side of his head stroke out his braines: which done dragd him into a bush, and there hid the murdred body: and with a bold face returned home. The youth being well beloued was in sundry places sought for, and no small suspition of his murder had by those of good conceipt. At length on whitson munday being the 12. of June a gray-hound found the murdred body, and neuer left baying till it was drawne forth. Oh wretched estate of bloodguilty murderers, how often haue the soules in the ayre wonderfully bewraied your long concealed acts, how often haue brute beastes wondered at you? howe often haue your trecherous hearts betrayed you? Though men see yet not God doth: though men bewray yet not, birds may: if birdes do not, beastes may, if neither doo, your own consciences shall, but if they be seared vp, God certainly will find out a meane.

When Chambers body was thus found, a ruefull sight it was to looke vpon, his faire countenance was discoulored, wormes cralled in his mouth, nose, eares, and his whole body was putrified. The milling of Wright that euening the deed was done, some suspitious wordes, but chefely Gods will made Wright to be suspected: and albeit, at the first he sought to face it out, yet before a Justice he confessed it presently, in manner as is before reciten: for which hee worthely suffered death on Munday the 14. of July at Rumford in Essex, and Draycote is to abide his triall at Chelmesford. O that all fathers and mothers might possibly haue heard Wrights lamentation, how he exhorted them to beware, how he exclaimed on cruelnesse, how he desired singlenesse, they would then remember the childe that were orphanes committed to their patronage, were to be vsed as nerely as their naturall children, but if seemed he knew his duety and forgot it; and if [illegible] he [illegible] they will remember it.

The robbery of Pets house with the wounding of his sonne.

OVr Second scene of this threefold tragedy, was acted in Rislip a country towne in Middlesex. Two neighbors dwelt in that parish, Murdor the one an honest wealthy Farmer, Pets the other a carpenter though not rich, yet of honest reputation: Murdor had among diuers children a yong man to his youngest sonne, of body well proportioned, of face louely, a great company keeper, giuen much to riot, yea giuen ouer as it proued, so that no allowance of his father, nor counsell of his mother preuailed with him: but will was to him a law, no profit seemed to him so pleasing as wanton pleasure: but as one sinne is father to another, so riot begot greedy desire of getting to maintaine wast, & this youth (being perswaded Pets was very rich) on sunday the 22. of June, after his owne Father was rid to Hounslow, Pets & his wife being at church, entred the house, and found a sonne of Pets about 10. yeres of age in the house. The child knowing Murdor, had no feare: albeit Murdor in his sight had rifled the house, & nailed foure pounds that was tied in the corner of a sheete, taking onely a little purse (as was proued by euidence) wherein fourteene pence was. Finding no more, he called the boy, Iacke saith he, wilt thou not tell? No indeed saith the child. Then come and bring a knife quoth Murdor, and we will into the groue to cut whippestockes. The simple child tooke a knife & followed him, and beeing come through a close into the groue, hee with the knife the childe brought, gaue him about the throat but with the weapon, and so thinking the childe to be dead left him, but hearing the boy crie, returned and gaue him into the right breast: then listening againe, he againe returned and gaue him againe: and the third time comming backe, stopping the childes mouth with moss, hee thinking him surely dead, and leauing him, went towards the Church, but [illegible]

neighbor Petshis. Whether the mother and her eldest sonne went to see the cause: the yong sonne would not goe. When Murdor wife came there, they saw the house rifled, but onely the wofull mother cried for her sonne, her sonne. Some neighbors spied a swing towardes the greue followed it, and found the boy all to bewelered in goze. And perceiuing life to be in him, two layde him on a cloke, and betweene them brought him home. Where murdores mother most of any other when hee had recouered speech) sought to haue him tell who did the deed. At last with great feare he told, & presently yong Murdor was apprehended, and found bayle, denying the deed with many bitter curses. That day he carelesly followed his pleasure, but the childes constancie in his accusation, made the parents to bring him before the Lord Anderson, who so sifted him that he confessed the fact. For which he was condemned at the Sessions at newgate, and executed on munday the 14. of July. The mone he made, ỹ greefe he had of his misspent life, too late too helpless was lamentable, but such is the reward of ryot, where no regard is had of spending aboue the course of lawful getting, necessity must nedes follow: games, wantonnes, & ease, are not continued without excessiue cost. He died in his prime of youth, in ỹ flower of his strẽgth, in the blooming of his hopes, making his owne ende shamefull by wastfull ouersight. The child (by Gods power) is recouered, and at the barre gaue euidence against him.

The murder of the Grasier.

Our last part is composed of enuie, Auarice, false freendship, murder, massacring, and their reward. For enuie. One Dermy a grasier about Esser side being very familiar with William Randolph a man of his owns profession, dwelling about Cardiffe, and hauing much dealing about London, stomacked (as diuers men of one trade do) the great dealings of Randolph. Randolph seemed to be a man of gentle nature

and

and verye open to his frend, taking Dernley for no foe of his, for Dernley was prime that Randolph had receiued aboue three hundred pound, and was to ride from London through Ailsbury toward Wales. Whereupon he acquainted, one Parry dwelling in Shoreditch, and Richardson another of his confederats dwelling in Knight-rider streete in London with Randolphs condition, charge of money, and the way hee had to ride. They fell in company with Randolph a little from London, and verie curteously bare him company to Ailsbury: and by the way one Tailer of Ailsbury chanced among them, and noting by Randolphs talke that hee concealed not his charge of mony, besides obseruing how Parrey and Richardson were horst, and weaponed, tolde Randolphe secretly at his comming to Ailsbury, that hee did not wisely to ride so open, and willed him to loke well to Parrey and Richardson, for hee mistrusted them. The good old man beleeuing the faire speeches of the ill intending murderers, better than the honest aduise of the plaine meaning man, replied, they were very friendly Gentlemen dwelling in London, such as had shewed him very kindly, and that for a worlde of wealth he would not haue an euill thought of them, so honest they seemed, so gentle, so faire conditioned, whereupon Tailer seing Randolphs mynde so settled to vse more words. But this talke of his, either by Randolphs meanes or some other course came to Parrey and Richardsons hearing, whereupon making them of his pleasure, in the morning they went before him out of towne, pretending haste also of their way. Randolph hearing they were gone, greatly blamed the Chamberlaine, and with all speed hasted to poast after them, & comming about some mile from Ailsburie met one who tolde him that such Gentlemen were safely riding not a full mile before. Whom now to trauerse to mishandes, both what diligence they his euill seruing dyd to him ere it was, his hast could ouertake the gallopd after, and by seuen got sight of them that were readye to slay his sight with eternall darkenesse: when hee saw them they [illegible]

low hearted companions, vnder colour of kinde salutation, turning their horses heades to bid him welcome, Parrey first with a Iudas like welcome discharged his pistol in his bosome: with the entrance of the bullet the poore man laid his faint hand on his wounded brest, while Richardson with the second bullet that him through hand and belly. So fell he downe, and they like bloodsucking wolues ceasd on this innocent, bubbling in his death wound vpon wound, mangling his face with such inhumane cruelty, as no barbarous tirant coulde more outragiously haue done. Then drew they him into a thicket, and rifled his dead body: where Richardson yet vnsatisfied with cruelty stabd him into the necke, with such violence that in pulling back his hand, the pummell and handle of his dagger cam off, but the blade he left sticking in his neck, which blade was one witnes against the murderous maister. This done, they turnd his horse into the wood and honer about the country some two dales and more after. For it was the second day before ỹ murdred body was found, by a fellow that fought cattle. When the hue and cry came to Ailsbury, Tayler among other went to se the body, and by the apparell better than the face he knew it was the carcasse of that wretched man, who had refused his counsell at Ailsbury the other night before. He retried their apparell, proportions, horses and all such markes as yee aboue haue taken while he rid in their company. To London, toward Wales, & euery way the hue and cry went. Parrey was taken in Wales, and confest the fact. Richardson at his owne dore in London. A while he denied the deed, but long he stood not in it, both of them accused Wernley, and to Ailsbury they are all gone to suffer deserued death. God giue them repentant hearts to lament earnestly the cruelty of their handes, for so more bloodie elle haue I not heard a murder of long time to be followed. The murdred man, as I before told, was plaine, simple, & of no mistrustfull heart. The murderers to the worlds eye well thought off. Wernley the causer of Randolphs death, a very wealthy man well reported of honest conuersation. Parrey and Richardson the executio-

ners, borne of honeſt parentage, faire conditioned, not thought to liue ſo diſorderly as it ſeemeth they now did. For had they not bẽ exerciſed to robbery and ſpoyle, howe durſt Dernley haue broke ſo hainous a matter to them, or if he had not before time ſo purpoſt, how could hée ſo ſodainly haue found them for his purpoſe: but the community of the euill hath an euil end, and though they band themſelues for a time together, death gapes for them, & their deſtruction commeth ſodainly. Would ſome by theſe and many more examples would take hæd. It is impoſſible murder ſhould be hid, and therefore it is folly for any man to follow it. This brother in law and father in law Graygoſe & wright Murderers of innocent Thomas Chambers, thought that their ſecret miſchiefe could haue bæn as ſecretly conceiled as wickedly conceiued: but euen the day the dead body was found, their treachery was found: Murdor thought he had made ſure worke with youg Pets, but hee yet liues, whom he cruelly intended to haue ſlaine, and being but a child condemned him a man, before the ſeate of iudgement. Theſe laſt three thoght thẽſelues as ſure, but blod cried from the earth, and the voice of the reuenger hath made them tremble. Looke, looke, ye murderers how many miſeries ye bring to thoſe that liue, by your complotting others deaths: the parents, wiues, children, followers of thoſe you murder, that neuer ment you ill, are when your hatefull dæde is done, vexing followers of you to your deſerued deaths: your parents wiues children, followers, frændes mournfull and helpleſſe lamenters for your amiſſe, your owne names perpetually inrolled among murderers. If you be tempted to any ill, remẽber the end, ſhame miſery and confuſion of face, you that were wont to walke fræly, muſt be led like bondmen, that haue bæn wel thought on, muſt bee the peoples wonder: that were frends ſole comfort, are moſt ſharp percing ſwords vnto their hearts. Let thought of blod be farre from ye, for it is

 ſinne God hats, & no man will not pity.

FINIS.